CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1. An extensible administration tool, comprising:
- a first graphical user interface (GUI) operable to provide hierarchical navigation of a tree;
 - a second GUI operable to provide at least one control panel;
 - a framework for customizing the first and second GUIs; and

wherein the at least one control panel can be activated by selection of the node in the tree.

- 2. The tool of claim 1 wherein the framework comprises:
 - a first group of services related to extending the tree; and
 - a second group of services related to defining a control panel.
- 3. The tool of claim 2 wherein the first group of services includes:

first functions operable to add a node to the tree; and

wherein the node can be associated with an icon and/or a Uniform Resource

Locator (URL).

4. The tool of claim 3 wherein:

the URL is the address of a control panel implementation.

5. The tool of claim 2 wherein the second group of services includes:

first functions operable to create a control panel.

6. The tool of claim 1 wherein:

the tree contains at least one node; and

wherein the at least one node can represent a network-accessible entity that

can be administratively controlled by the tool.

7. The tool of claim 1 wherein:

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the tree contains at least one node; and wherein the at least one node is associated with at least one of: 1) a menu; 2) another node; and 3) a control panel.

- 8. The tool of claim 1 wherein: the tree provides a graphical representation of network resources.
- 9. The tool of claim 1 wherein: the tool can be used to administer resources within an application and/or web server.
- 10. The tool of claim 1 wherein: the at least one control panel can include tabs.
- 11. An extensible administration tool, comprising:
- a first graphical user interface (GUI) operable to provide hierarchical navigation of a tree;
 - a second GUI operable to provide at least one control panel;
 - a framework for customizing the first and second GUIs;

wherein the at least one control panel can be activated by selection of the node in the tree; and

wherein the tool can be used to administer resources within an application and/or web server.

- 12. The tool of claim 11 wherein the framework comprises:
 - a first group of services related to extending the tree; and
 - a second group of services related to defining a control panel.
- The tool of claim 12 wherein the first group of services includes: 13. first functions operable to add a node to the tree; and wherein the node can be associated with an icon and/or a Uniform Resource

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Locator (URL).

14. The tool of claim 13 wherein:the URL is the address of a control panel implementation.

- 15. The tool of claim 12 wherein the second group of services includes: first functions operable to create a control panel.
- 16. The tool of claim 11 wherein:
 the tree contains at least one node; and
 wherein the at least one node can represent a network-accessible entity that
 can be administratively controlled by the tool.
- 17. The tool of claim 11 wherein:
 the tree contains at least one node; and
 wherein the at least one node is associated with at least one of: 1) a menu; 2)
 another node; and 3) a control panel.
- 18. The tool of claim 11 wherein: the tree provides a graphical representation of network resources.
- 19. The tool of claim 11 wherein:the atleast one control panel can include tabs.
- 20. A method for customizing an administration tool, said method comprising: providing a control panel wherein the control panel is operable to configure a network-accessible resource;

associating the node with the control panel; and wherein the control panel can be activated by selection of the node in the resource tree.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein providing a control panel comprises:

adding a node to a graphical representation of a resource tree;

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implementing a Java Server Page (JSP).

- 22. The method of claim 20 wherein adding a node to the resource tree comprises: making the node a child of at least one other node.
- 23. The method of claim 20 wherein:

the tree contains at least one node; and

wherein the at least one node can represent a network-accessible entity that can be administratively controlled by the tool.

24. The method of claim 20 wherein:

the tree contains at least one node; and

wherein the at least one node is associated with at least one of: 1) a menu; 1) another node; and 3) a control panel.

25. The method of claim 20 wherein:

the tree provides a graphical representation of network resources.

26. The method of claim 20 wherein:

the tool can be used to administer resources within an application and/or a web server.

27. The method of claim 20 wherein:

the control panel can include tabs.

28. A method for customizing an administration tool, said method comprising:

providing a control panel wherein the control panel is operable to configure a network-accessible resource;

adding a node to a graphical representation of a resource tree;

associating the node with the control panel;

wherein the control panel can be activated by selection of the node in the resource tree; and

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wherein the tool can be used to administer resources within an application and/or a web server.

- 29. The method of claim 28 wherein providing a control panel comprises: implementing a Java Server Page (JSP).
- 30. The method of claim 28 wherein adding a node to the resource tree comprises: making the node a child of at least one other node.
- 31. The method of claim 28 wherein:
 the tree contains at least one node; and
 wherein the at least one node can represent a network-accessible entity that
 can be administratively controlled by the tool.
- 32. The method of claim 28 wherein:
 the tree contains at least one node; and
 wherein the at least one node is associated with at least one of: 1) a menu; 1)
 another node; and 3) a control panel.
- 33. The method of claim 28 wherein: the tree provides a graphical representation of network resources.
- 34. The method of claim 28 wherein: the control panel can include tabs.
- 35. A machine readable medium having instructions stored thereon that when executed by a processor cause a system to:

provide a control panel wherein the control panel is operable to configure a network-accessible resource;

add a node to a graphical representation of a resource tree; associate the node with the control panel;

wherein the control panel can be activated by selection of the node in the resource tree; and

wherein the tool can be used to administer resources within an application and/or a web server.

- 36. The machine readable medium of claim 35 wherein providing a control panel comprises instructions that when executed cause the system to:
 - implement a Java Server Page (JSP).
- 37. The machine readable medium of claim 35 wherein adding a node to the resource tree further comprising instructions that when executed cause the system to: make the node a child of at least one other node.
- The machine readable medium of claim 35 wherein: 38. the tree contains at least one node; and wherein the at least one node can represent a network-accessible entity that can be administratively controlled by the tool.
- The machine readable medium of claim 35 wherein: 39. the tree contains at least one node; and wherein the at least one node is associated with at least one of: 1) a menu; 1) another node; and 3) a control panel.
- 40. The machine readable medium of claim 35 wherein: the tree provides a graphical representation of network resources.
- 41. The machine readable medium of claim 35 wherein: the control panel can include tabs.

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